

**State Advisory Committee (SAC)  
for Children with Disabilities  
NH Department Of Education  
Room 15  
June 3, 2015  
4:30pm-7:00pm**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Attended: SAC Members** Bonnie Dunham, Lisa Beaudion, Ellen Boudreau, Heidi Cloutier, Candance Cole-McCrea, Kestrel Cole-McCrea, Donna Curtin, Jack Curtin, Patrick Curtin, Tom Grinley, Joan Holleran, Kerri-Lynn Kimner, Sue Marcotte-Jenkins, Eileen Mullen Kennedy, Jean Parsons, Mike Pinard, Janet Reed. Karen Rosenberg, Lynda Thistle-Elliott, Maureen Tracey, Jason Henry

**Guest(s):** Ruth Littlefield, Bureau of Special Education and Sherry Burbank Bureau of Special Education

**Agenda I:** Welcome, Introductions, Approval of Minutes, Public Comment, Nominations

- Bonnie began the meeting at approximately 4:38pm
- Attendees introduced themselves and their role on SAC
- This is the last meeting of the year; the SAC Retreat needs to be scheduled as soon as possible; the Retreat is an all-day meeting 9am-2pm.
- Approval of May Minutes
  - Janet Reed made a motion to accept the April minutes, seconded by several SAC members
  - Candace advised the spelt is not a word, needs to be changed.
  - Bonnie made a motion to approve the April Minutes with the above correction. 13 yes and 8 abstentions. Motion passed.
- There were no public comments.

**Agenda II:** Updates from SAC Liaisons and Legislative Update

- Susan Marcotte-Jenkins, no SAC Liaisons updates

Legislative Updates:

- SB 47 – repealing the payment of subminimum wages to persons with disabilities, has been signed by the Governor.
- SB 101, prohibiting the state from requiring implementation for common core standards has been vetoed by the Governor.
- HB 126, establishing a commission to study issues related to students receiving special education services while attending a chartered public school has been passed by the House and the Senate
- HB 604, relative to use of mixed use school buses by special education students has been passed by the House and the Senate

### **Agenda III: Bureau Updates**

Ruth Littlefield, Education Consultant of the Bureau of Special Education presented on the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP): Improving social – emotional outcomes for preschool children with disabilities.

History: why did we develop the SSIP? Indicator of the State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR) says . . .

The State's SPP/APR includes a comprehensive, multi-year State Systemic Improvement Plan, focused on improving results for students with disabilities . . . . .

Ruth shared a PowerPoint with the SAC members outlining the Phases, Input and Support, State – Identified Measureable Result, Data and Target Setting for the SSIP.

Ruth asked the SAC members if any of them would like to serve on the Stakeholder Group; please contact her.

### **Agenda IV: Old Business, including: Report from subcommittee considering a response to the Commissioner's letter re: SAC's recommendations on the Full Implementation of IEPs**

Election of the Chair for next year 2015-2016

- Bonnie nominated Maureen Tracey for Chair
- Maureen nominated Bonnie for Chair; Bonnie declined
- Of the 21 SAC members in attendance, 18 votes for Maureen and 2 votes for Bonnie

For 2015-2016

- What worked well, what didn't work in 2014-2015?
- What will SAC will focus on for the next year?
- Members and contact information changed, please let Barbara know for updating of the membership list.
- Discuss subcommittee business, hasn't worked out during the meeting time; please submit ideas for subcommittee meetings/report outs to SAC membership.

New business:

Ellen Boudreau ~ Job Core New Hampshire has set their target date to open in October. If Ellen received additional information will pass on to SAC.

Heidi Cloutier ~ July is the anniversary of ADA; New Hampshire has nothing planned. The NE ADA Association has an event planned on Boston Common for July 22<sup>nd</sup>, a small group from the IOD will be attending, if SAC members would like to attend, please let Heidi know.

Heidi Cloutier ~ Santina asked Heidi to share the news: IOD's Joanne Malloy is the co-principle investigator for a huge project: Project RENEW.

Jason Henry ~ A symposium was held in the North Country; 341 deaths in NH, there is a large opiate issue, has hit hard in the North Country, babies being born with it, 2 have died. There is a need to focus on early education with children, how do we stop this (Conway Daily Sun). Heroin is very cheap and there are no treatment centers.

The Parent Information Center (PIC) will be holding all day workshops throughout the summer; they will be posted to PIC's website.

Meeting with Commissioner Barry on June 22<sup>nd</sup>

A small committee of members of the State Advisory Committee ~ Bonnie Dunham, Jean Parsons, Maureen Tracey, and Karen Rosenberg ~ meet with Commissioner Barry to discuss her letter of October 20, 2014 (in response to a letter sent to Ginny by SAC) to the Commissioner's letter, SAC has, as she requested, clarified their recommendations and expanded on some items.

#### Lakeview

Karen Rosenberg provided updates on Lakeview and the investigation. Santina and a Team from the Bureau of Special Education scheduled on-site visits to verify Lakeview's compliance, significant issues with the programs and recommended Lakeview's special education approval be revoked. Lakeview appealed; on May 20<sup>th</sup> there was a lengthy hearing before the State Board. The State Board unanimously supported the Commissioner's decision.

Lakeview is in the process of transiting students and adults out of the facility; they have stated they will have to shut down the facility, not feasible to maintain operations.

The Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education did an excellent job on the investigations of Lakeview, measured and detailed work.

Candace inquired "do we spend time monitoring the places students are placed in?" Janet responded "private providers are monitored every 3 to 5 years, depending on what has been found at a monitoring visit." Janet stated she knows the scrutiny the private providers go through and the monitoring process has gone up significantly through the approval process and the training being provided.

#### **Agenda V:** Subcommittees meet

- Secondary Transition
- Children with Disabilities Who Have Absent Parent(s)
- Ensuring that School Boards and Other Key Stakeholders are Well-Informed (including about special education finance issues)
  - Bonnie ~ the Medicare Manager for Rochester School District called and has been giving out a user friendly special education funding document. Bonnie to share with the SAC members.

#### **Agenda VII:** Reports from Subcommittees, with Group Input/Discussion

N/A

#### **Agenda VIII:** New Business, Emerging Issues, Announcements, Current Events, Public Comment

N/A

#### **Agenda VIII:** Adjourn – *All Day Retreat (TBA), 9am- 2pm*

Heidi made a motion to Adjourn, motion was seconded Jason; all in favor.  
Meeting adjourned at 6:54pm.